

### IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of

Kouki FUKUI : Attn: APPLICATION BR

Serial No. NEW : Docket No. 2001\_0681A

Filed June 1, 2001

NONCOMBUSTIBLE INSULATING DUCT

# PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT TO REDUCE PTO FILING FEE

Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, DC 20231

Sir:

Please amend the above-identified application as follows.

#### In the Claims:

### Kindly amend claim 8 as follows.

8. (Amended) A noncombustible insulating duct according to Claim 1, wherein the insulating material is noncombustible insulating fiber, such as glass wool and rock wool.

## Kindly add/new claims 9-14 as follows.

9. (New) A noncombustible insulating duct according to Claim 2, wherein the insulating material is noncombustible insulating fiber, such as glass wool and rock wool.

(New) A noncombustible insulating duct according to Claim 3, wherein the insulating material is noncombustible insulating fiber, such as glass wool and rock wool.